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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Thailand

SUBJECT The Sale of Chinese Nationalist Weapons to the Viet Minh

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1. an entire unit of 1,000 Chinese Nationalist troops fled the Communists in Yunnan and took refuge in Kengtung province, Burma. Local authorities said they might remain in Burma but that they must provide their own food.

2. Since the Chinese soldiers had no money, they disposed of their arms at the following prices:*

150 baht per pistol
300 baht per rifle
400 baht per carbine
500 baht per submachinegun
600 to 800 baht per light machinegun

3. Most of their arms and ammunition were bought by the Viet Minh, the remainder going to bandits and smugglers.**

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Comment. Prices are quoted in Thai currency because both Burmese and Thai money can be used in the border province.

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Comment. Civilians have been seen carrying pistols in the streets of Kengtung.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

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